

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic braking device for molten steel flowing into a continuous casting mold (1) having broad-side walls (3, 4) and water tanks (7, 7'), the braking device comprising at least one magnet coil (2) with a ferromagnetic core (5) assigned to the broad-side walls (3, 4) of the mold, wherein the core (5) consists of a primary part (6) that houses the magnet coil (2), that is movable to within a certain distance of the broad-side walls (3, 4), and that is disconnected from a mold oscillator ~~oscillation~~, and of additional parts (8, 8') that are permanently installed in the water tanks (7, 7') of the mold (1), such that, when the parts of the core (6, 8) are brought together into an operating position, the parts (6, 8) form U-shaped ~~V-shaped~~ yokes (9, 9') for generating a closed magnetic flux (10) through the water tanks, and when the parts (6, 8) are moved apart the magnetic flux is interrupted, a drive unit (14) being operatively arranged to move the primary part (16), the water tanks having walls formed so as

to accommodate the primary part of the core in the operating position at the certain distance from the broad-side walls.

2. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the additional parts (8, 8') installed in the water tanks (7, 7') are ferromagnetic and are assigned to the yokes (9, 9').

3. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with claim 1, wherein vertical recesses (11, 11') are formed in lateral surfaces of the broad-side walls (3, 4) that face the water tanks (7, 7'), and further comprising ferromagnetic filler pieces (12, 12') fitted into the recesses.

4. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the drive unit (14) is a hydraulic actuator or an electric drive, and further comprising guides, the primary part (6) of the core (5) with the magnet coil (2) being movable in the guides (13, 13') by the hydraulic actuator or electric drive (14) in a direction perpendicular to the broad-side walls (3, 4).

5. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the filler pieces (12, 12') are of variable length or width and/or depth.

6. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the movable partial core with its primary part (6) and the magnet coil (2), the drive unit (14), and the guides (13), on the one hand, and the additional core parts (8, 8'), which are permanently installed in the water tanks (7, 7') of the mold (1), on the other hand, are held together by magnetic forces at contact points (16, 16') and do not form a fixed mechanical connection.

7. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the contact points (16, 16') are designed as friction bearings or roller bearings (17, 17') having parts (18, 18') assigned to the water tanks (7, 7') so as to oscillate with the mold (1) together with the water tanks, and parts assigned to the primary part (6) of the core (5) and the magnet coil (2), including the drive unit (14) and the guides (13), so as to be disconnected from oscillation.

8. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 7, wherein the sliding friction of the friction bearing (17, 17') is at least substantially eliminated in the region of the contact points (16, 16') by an anti friction layer (18, 18').

9. (Previously presented) Braking device in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the antifriction layer is an air cushion formed by compressed air introduced into the central region of the contact points (16, 16').